

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone) **CONFIDENTIAL**
 SUBJECT Intelligence Activities of the Press Section
 of the DDR Government

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. One of the political security organizations of the Soviet Zone Republic is located within the Press Bureau of the government. Albert Norden*, press chief of the Afl, is in over-all charge. His assistants are Gerhard Zadek and Walter Otto.
2. Officially the Bureau exercises political supervision over all Soviet Zone newspapers and their editorial staffs. Beyond that, however, it also receives and evaluates reports on other individuals considered politically indifferent by its far-flung net of informants. The names of all persons considered "dangerous" are turned over to the SSD (State Security Service) for further investigation.
3. In addition the bureau collects, analyzes, and evaluates so-called public opinion polls

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4. In Berlin, for instance, the following persons are known to report to Norden's office:

Gustav Schrage, ADN, Berlin Section,
 Hilmann Berkel, TASS representative, Niederschoenhausen, Victoriast. 2,
 Friedrich Bluhm, Oberkommissar of the Volkspolizei (Section K),
 Ernst Goetze, secretary of the President of the Berlin VP,
 Almut Djonga, of the SSD office in the Dirksenstrasse,
 Jan Jabasy, of the Trade Organization "Centroprom",
 Heinz Stern and Susi Kamusewitz of the FDJ,
 Ernst Zahlbaum of the Gruenau Studio of the Berlin Radio.

5. Each of the informants is charged with reporting political opinion of persons in his organization. The informant at Tass is also liaison to the SKK, whose chief informant, Lazarev, is also chief of the Civil Administration Section in Karlshorst.

* Comment: Norden was dismissed from his job as chief of the Press Bureau in April 1950.

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

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